

January 19, 2012

Senator Jim Smith
P.O. Box 94604
Lincoln, Nebraska 68509-4604

Dear Senator Smith:

The Department of Health and Human Services recommends that the language for LB 773 be amended as follows:

- Replace lines 21 to 25 on page 2 with, "When a credential will expire within one hundred eighty days after its initial issuance date or its reinstatement date and the initial or renewal fee is twenty five dollars or more, the department shall collect twenty five dollars or one fourth of the initial credentialing or renewal fee, whichever is greater for the initial or reinstated credential.
- Strike all the underlined language in lines 1 to 5 on page 3, ending with the word "dollars"; and keep the remaining language in lines 5 and 6.

These technical changes would:

- achieve the bill's intent, as we understand it; and
- allow the Department to consistently administer the proration of fees for initially issued or reinstated credentials that will expire within 180 days of their issuance or reinstatement date.

The unintended consequence of not changing the language would result in licensees paying higher fees and we understand that this is not the intent of this legislation. We appreciate the opportunity to provide this information.

Sincerely,



Joann Schaefer, M.D.
Chief Medical Officer
Director, Division of Public Health
Department of Health and Human Services